# REGISTER OF CLASSIFICATION DECISIONS

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| Date of entry in Register: | 28 July 1997 |
| Name of applicant/court: | Comptroller of Customs |
| Applicant to the Labelling Body: | Not Applicable |
| Title of Publication: | Not Stated in English / My Son ... Aaron / Untitled |
| Other Known Titles: | Rubber Slave and Tatooed Master / My Son... Aaron / The Making of a Slave |
| Director: | Not Stated |
| Producer: | Not Stated |
| Publisher: | Not Applicable |
| Author: | Not Applicable |
| Format: | Video Recording VHS/NTSC |
| Country of Origin: | Not Stated |
| Language: | Not Stated |

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**Components of film originally examined:**

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| Feature: | Not Stated in English | Running time: | 59.35 |
| | My Son ... Aaron | | 95.13 |
| | Untitled | | 6.31 |
| Trailers: | Notice | Running time: | 0.59 |
| | Blank Screen | | 0.05 |
| | Age Notice | | 0.07 |
| | | Total Running time: | 162.30 |

Excision/Alteration: No.

Reason(s) for Excision:

Not Applicable.

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Classification Decision:

Objectionable.

Display conditions:

Not Applicable.

Descriptive Note:

Not Applicable.

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Direction to issue a label has not been given.

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**SUMMARY OF THE REASONS FOR DECISION:**

The video recording, *Not Stated in English / My Son ... Aaron / Untitled* otherwise known a*s Rubber Slave and Tattooed Master / My Son ... Aaron / The Making of a Slave*, is classified as:
Objectionable.

The publication contains scenes of sadomasochistic sexual activity throughout. Firstly, the publication promotes and supports the use of violence and coercion to compel a person to submit to sexual conduct. In the component entitled *Not Stated in English* (otherwise known as *Rubber Slave and Tattooed Master*) a male is kidnapped by another male and coerced into submitting to sadomasochistic sexual activity. The male does not appear to consent to the activity.

Secondly, the video recording promotes and supports acts of extreme cruelty by presenting explicit and titillating images of a male being severely whipped, clothes pegs being clamped onto a male’s nipples and being pulled off roughly, a male’s penis being whipped, hot candle wax being dripped onto a man’s chest and a male being beaten with a paddle until the man screams and yells “no”.

Thirdly, the video recording promotes and supports the use of urine in association with degrading and dehumanising conduct and sexual conduct. The component in the video recording *Not Stated In English* contains depictions of a man urinating over a bound man, and urinating into a bowl into which he then pushes the man’s head.

Consideration was given to s14 of the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990, and whether excisions would affect the classification. However, the entire video recording also contains depictions of dehumanising and degrading sexual conduct which degrades and dehumanises the participants, and depictions of physical activity in which sexual satisfaction is derived from inflicting or suffering pain. These depictions are sustained throughout the feature in such a manner that excisions would be inappropriate.

OFLC Ref: 9601558